

SENATE BILL NO. 115

INTRODUCED BY L. JENT

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A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT DIRECTING THAT ALL MONEY COLLECTED BY COURTS AS RESTITUTION FOR THE ILLEGAL KILLING OR POSSESSION OF CERTAIN WILDLIFE BE CREDITED TO THE DEPARTMENT OF FISH, WILDLIFE, AND PARKS FOR HUNTER EDUCATION AND ENFORCEMENT; AMENDING SECTION 87-1-114, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

WHEREAS, Montana is experiencing an increase in the number of organized wildlife crimes and a corresponding need for additional indepth investigative and trial preparation support necessary for the successful prosecution of wildlife crimes in order to control the unlawful commercialization of the state's public wildlife resources; and

WHEREAS, directing all money collected as restitution for the illegal killing or possession of certain wildlife to the department of fish, wildlife, and parks for law enforcement or hunter education will assist in paying for additional criminal investigators needed to address the increase in organized wildlife crimes.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

**Section 1.** Section 87-1-114, MCA, is amended to read:

**"87-1-114. Disposition of proceeds.** ~~(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), all~~ All money collected by a court pursuant to 87-1-111 through 87-1-113 and 87-1-115 must be remitted to the department of revenue for deposit in the state special revenue fund account to the credit of the department for hunter education purposes or for enforcement.

~~(2) Money collected pursuant to subsection (1) in excess of \$60,000 annually must be remitted to the department of revenue for deposit in the state general fund."~~

NEW SECTION. **Section 2. Effective date.** [This act] is effective July 1, 2007.

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